

High Value Cash Crops in Mountain Farming Mountain Development Processes and Opportunities

Tej Partap

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Preface

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This current discussion paper is part of the Mountain Farming Series, "High-value Cash Crops in Mountain Farming Systems," which was presented at the "Regional Conference on Sustainable Development of Fragile Mountain Areas of Asia" which took place from December 13th to 16th, 1994, in Kathmandu, Nepal. Support for this Conference came from the Swiss Development Cooperation, FAO, UNDP, UNEP, and the UNU.

The unanimous concern expressed at this conference was for the deteriorating conditions of both the environments and livelihoods of mountain people. Mountain development had not been geared to the people nor the environment it purported to serve.

One of the achievements of the conference was a wider sharing of knowledge amongst the mountain countries of Asia and insight into the constraints that confronted them and the opportunities offered by the wide diversity of their special mountain environments. Another significant achievement was the formulation of a Call to Action on the Sustainable Development of Mountain Areas of Asia, or SUDEMAA recommendations.

By publishing the conference papers in its various discussion paper series, ICIMOD seeks to share the knowledge gained with a wider audience. This current paper should be of interest to all those who are working with or concerned about the positive transformation of mountain farming systems.

Tej Partap

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Dr. Tej Partap is the Head of the Mountain Farming
Systems' Division of ICIMOD

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